1/21/71

Dear Harold,

Since my last visit to you, I had decided to spend time over the summer familiarizing myself with the Kennedy administration, trying to learn about the "restructuring of society" you described, and the various other changes in his policies and outlooks in the months before he was killed.

Just yesterday, I learned that a history course I have (Comparative revolutions) offered the option of spending the semester in research, culminating in a final paper. This is called a research contract. Immediately I thought I could devote this time now to the added research I planned. I met with the prof and told him of my previous work and plans. He was quite excited, and approved my "contract."

Thus, my work for one of my courses this semester will be research on the political aspects of the assass, esp. the JFK changes of heart and policy before his death.

Currently, I plan to read the various Kennedy books by staff and aides. Sorenson just came out with another supposedly detailing the Kennedy plan for peace in the world (including RFK). Galbraith has a book about his years as amvassador under JFK, which may have something. I will also go through each issue of the NYT from about August to November or Dec, 1963. Some of the books on the CIA would probably be of value.

Clearly, I need your avice on this. Perhaps you could direct me to the better sources, tell me what to avoid, what is crap, etc. You might also be able to tell me what areas would be most profitable.

I've already told my prof that this idea was inspired from your work (he has read some of the published stuff of yours). I don't know if this could hold anything in it for you. My prof wants to speak with some other members of the history dept. who would be interested. He was obviously turned on by the whole thing.

If you fear (as I anticipate) that I will be merely lifting your own work, I can tell you only that a) I will never so much as mention anything you have told me in confidence or which you express the desire to be kept quiet and b) credit will go to you wherever warranted. My prof already knows you are the inspiration behind this.

I welcome your comments and suggestions. If you would prefer I call you, then please tell me and I will.

Best,

Harold

cc Dick